section of the city (beginning January 28th, 1932). In the fighting which followed, Chinese civilians suffered severely and a large section of the city was laid waste. Chinese troops offered an unexpectedly stout resistance and were dislodged only after a month of heavy fighting and when the Japanese had received large reenforcements. Hostilities ceased early in March, 1932, and partly through the machinery of the League of Nations a working peace was restored and the Japanese began to evacuate the occupied areas.

Not unnaturally, the rest of the world was deeply concerned over the Sino-Japanese controversy. Although officially war was not declared between China and Japan, diplomatic relations were maintained, and technically the two nations were at peace, in actual fact war was in progress. Both governments were members of the League of Nations, both had signed the Pact of Paris renouncing war "as an instrument of national policy/' and Japan had bound herself by the Nine Power Treaty of 1922 "to respect the sovereignty, the independence, and the territorial and administrative integrity of China." The situation gave the peace machinery of the world its most severe test since the close of the war of 1914-1918.

Promptly after the incident of September 18th, 1931, China appealed to the League of Nations. The American Government also early expressed to Japan and China the hope that both would refrain from further hostilities. Space forbids a recounting of all the diplomatic steps taken in and out of the League of Nations to bring about a peaceful settlement. Japan at first insisted on direct negotiations with China. China refused to enter upon them while Japanese troops were in Chinese territory.

Tokyo declared that it had no territorial aspirations in Manchuria but gave the impression of being very reluctant to allow the League to act.

As a rule, the United States and the League worked in fairly close conjunction. Moscow, absorbed in its Five Year Plan, was not disposed to enter into active opposition to Tokyo, even though the resumption of Russo-Chinese diplomatic relations, at the end of 1932, made the Japanese uneasy. January 8th, 1932, the United States notified both China and Japan that it could not recognize any agreements between Japan and China which would "impair the treaty rights of the United States or its citizens in